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5 February 1965

DCI BRIEFING

FOR THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

HAITI

I. The Duvalier dictatorship continues without any effective domestic challenge despite lack of popular support, a dismal economic situation, and a considerable degree of diplomatic isolation.

A. The most recent "invasion" by armed Haitian exiles was finally liquidated in late October, 1964, after nearly three months of sporadic guerrilla operations.

1. The Haitian Army was shown to be woefully inadequate against the small band of rebels.

2. The rebels were finally isolated by the regime's terror tactics against Haitians suspected of helping them.

3. Entire Mulatto families were put to death by the regime.

B. Haitian exiles in the US are preparing a new "invasion."

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1. A gangster element of the Cuban exile community is offering men and arms in return for a future anti-Castro base in Haiti.

II. Duvalier's deep-seated suspicion of the US is unchanged, although he has tried in recent months to appear cooperative with the US in hopes of obtaining a renewal of US economic and military aid.

III. The two small Communist parties have recently planned to resume activity, after having been quiet for some six months; this may have been spurred on by the Havana meeting of the Latin American Communist parties and recent inflammatory broadcasts beamed to Haiti by Radio Havana.